

# SPACE WEATHER RESEARCH PROGRAM OF THE U.S. NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

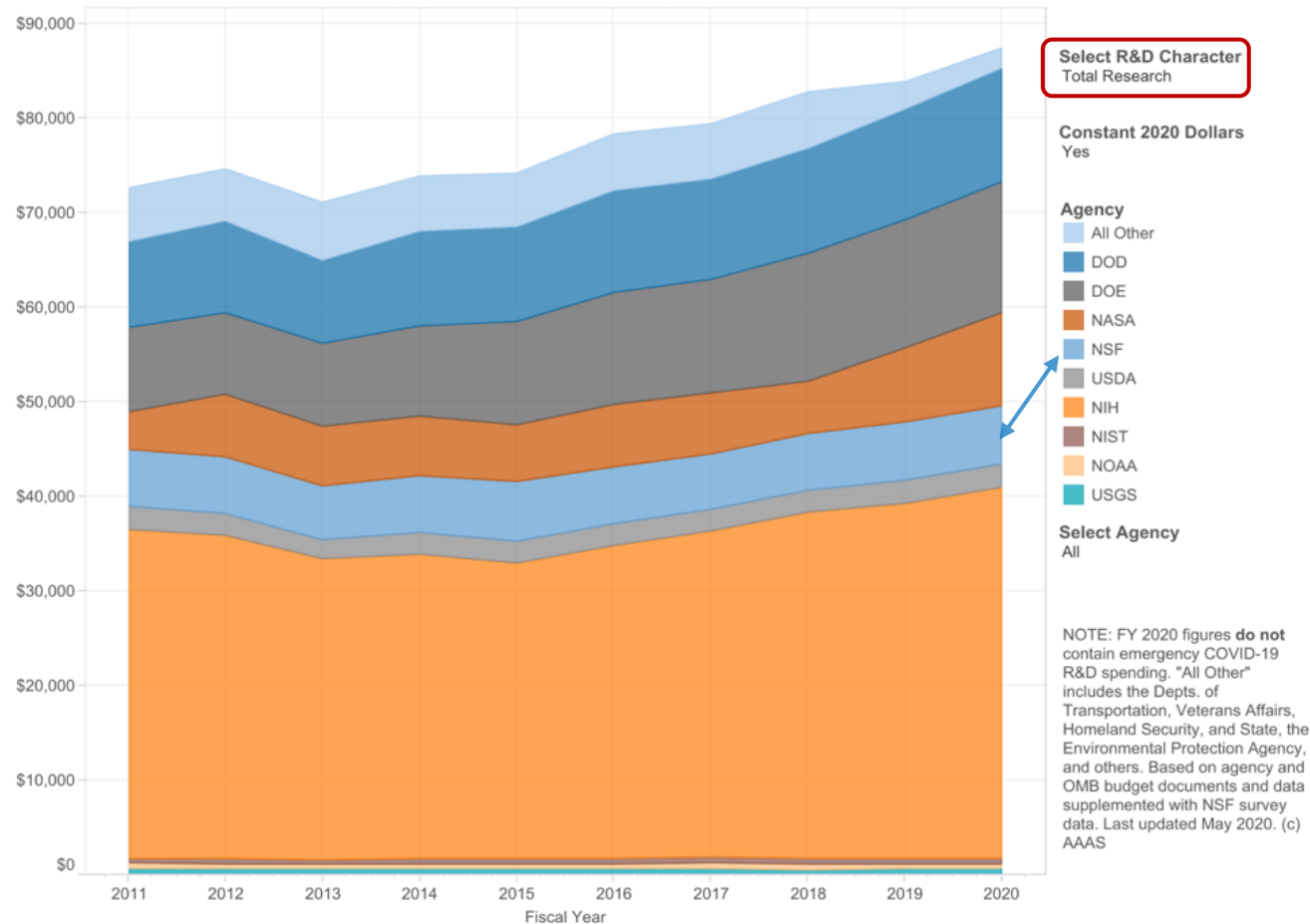
Dr. Mangala Sharma, Program Director, Space Weather, NSF  
[www.nsf.gov](http://www.nsf.gov)

Space Weather Workshop (April 20, 2021)



# NSF is the only U.S. federal agency that invests in basic research & education across STEM disciplines

Federal R&D Funding by Agency  
(budget authority, millions of dollars)



Credit: AAAS Federal R&D Budget Dashboard

**\$8.4 billion**

FY 2020 Appropriations  
(does not include mandatory accounts)

**1,421**

NSF Employees (Full Time Equivalents in FY 2020)

**1,900**

Colleges, universities, and other institutions receiving NSF funding in FY 2020

**12,200**

Competitive awards funded in FY 2020

**28%**

Funding rate in FY 2020

**313,000**

Estimated number of people NSF supported directly in FY 2020 (researchers, postdoctoral fellows, trainees, teachers, and students)

# NSF'S MISSION

To promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; and to secure the national defense.

## Director's Vision



Advance  
the frontiers  
of research  
into the future



Ensure  
accessibility  
and inclusivity



Secure global  
leadership

We are in a  
**DEFINING MOMENT**



Intensity of global competition



Urgent need for domestic talent



Broad support for science as path  
for solving global grand challenges

We can accomplish this vision with:

**SPEED** AND  
**SCALE**



**PEOPLE**



**PARTNERSHIPS**

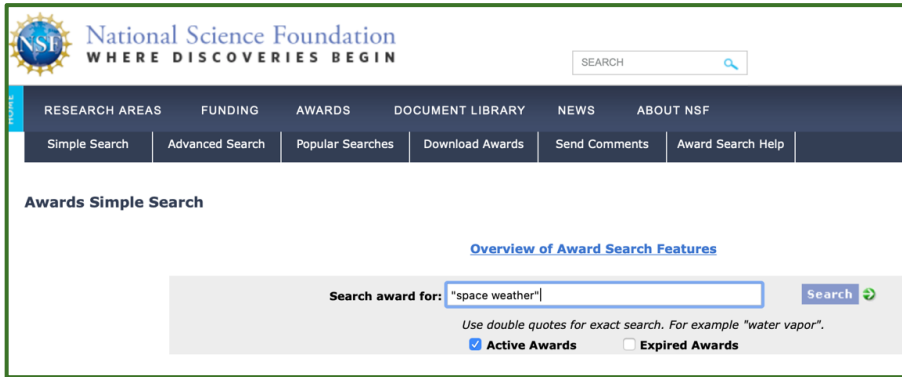


**TRANSLATION**



# Several NSF programs and units support SWx!

<https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch>



National Science Foundation  
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

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Overview of Award Search Features

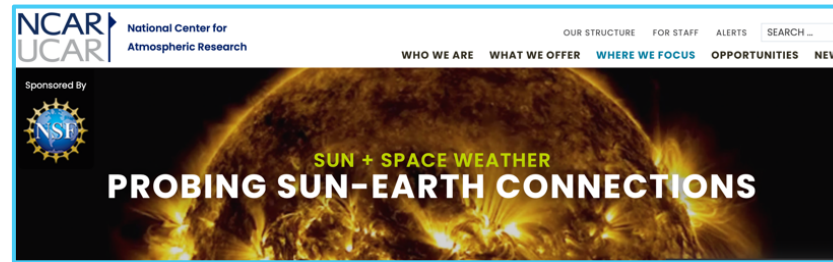
Search award for: "space weather" Search

Use double quotes for exact search. For example "water vapor".

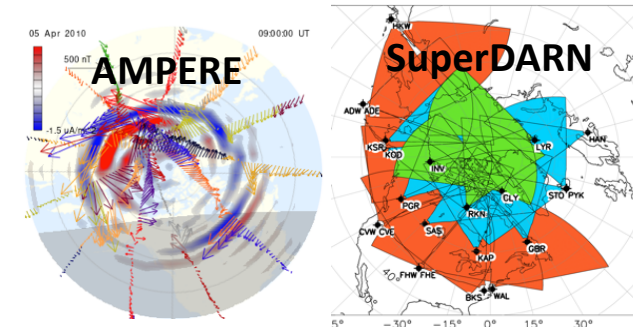
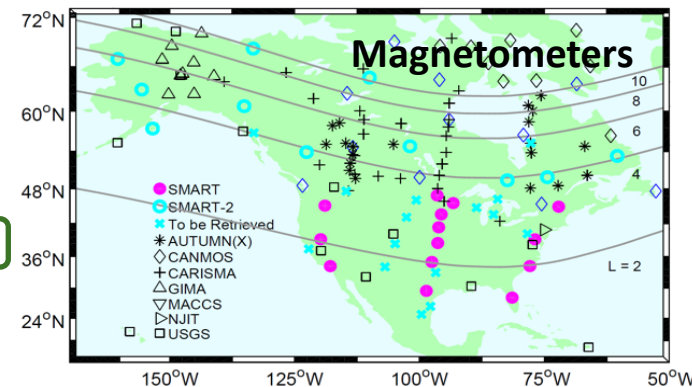
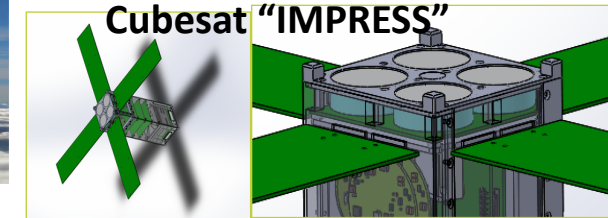
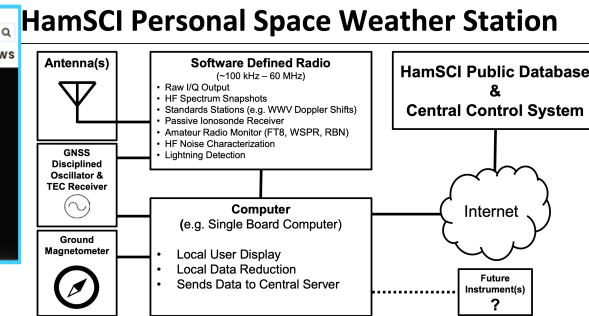
☒ Active Awards ☐ Expired Awards

## NSF Organization

- Office Of The Director(3)
  - Office of Integrative Activities(3)
- Direct For Mathematical & Physical Scien(31)
  - Division Of Physics(17)
  - Division Of Astronomical Sciences(12)
  - Division Of Mathematical Sciences(2)
- Direct For Computer & Info Scie & Enginr(12)
  - Office of Advanced Cyberinfrastructure (12)
- Directorate For Geosciences(232)
  - ICER(9)
  - Div Atmospheric & Geospace Sciences(212)
  - Division Of Earth Sciences(3)
  - Office of Polar Programs (OPP)(8)
- Directorate For Engineering(1)
  - Div Of Industrial Innovation & Partnersh(1)



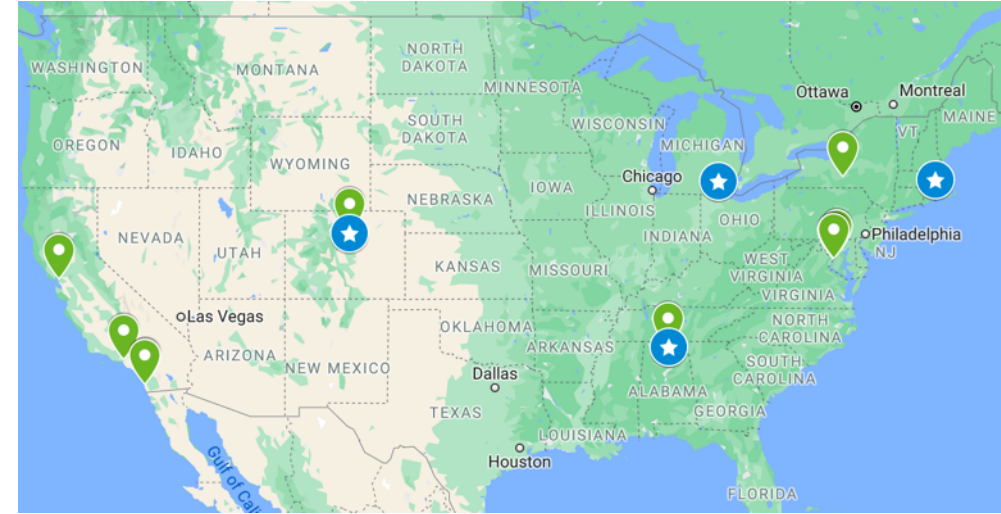
Credit: NSO/NSF/AURA





# NSF and NASA made 6 awards totaling >\$17M (FY20) for *Next Generation Software for Data-driven Models of Space Weather with Quantified Uncertainties*

- (NASA) Ensemble Learning for Accurate and Reliable Uncertainty Quantification (PI: E. Camporeale, CU Boulder [+ UCLA])
- (NSF) Forecasting Small-Scale Plasma Structures in the Earth's Ionosphere-Thermosphere System (PI: T.-W. Fang; CU Boulder [+ Cornell U.])
- (NSF) Composable Next Generation Software Framework for Space Weather Data Assimilation and Uncertainty Quantification (PI: R. Linares, MIT [+ UCSD, U. Michigan])
- (NSF+NASA) Improving Space Weather Predictions with Data-Driven Models of the Solar Atmosphere and Inner Heliosphere (PI: N. Pogorelov, U. Alabama at Huntsville [+ GSFC, MSFC, LBNL, PSI, SSRC])
- (NASA) A Flexible Community-based Upper Atmosphere Ensemble Prediction System (PI: A. Ridley, U. Michigan [+ UCAR, GSFC, NRL])
- (NSF) NextGen Space Weather Modeling Framework Using Data, Physics and Uncertainty Quantification (PI: G. Toth, U. Michigan)



- Understand necessary and sufficient requirements of model complexity, computational performance, and observational inputs for predictive space weather modeling
- Transdisciplinary collaborations among universities, national labs, private sector

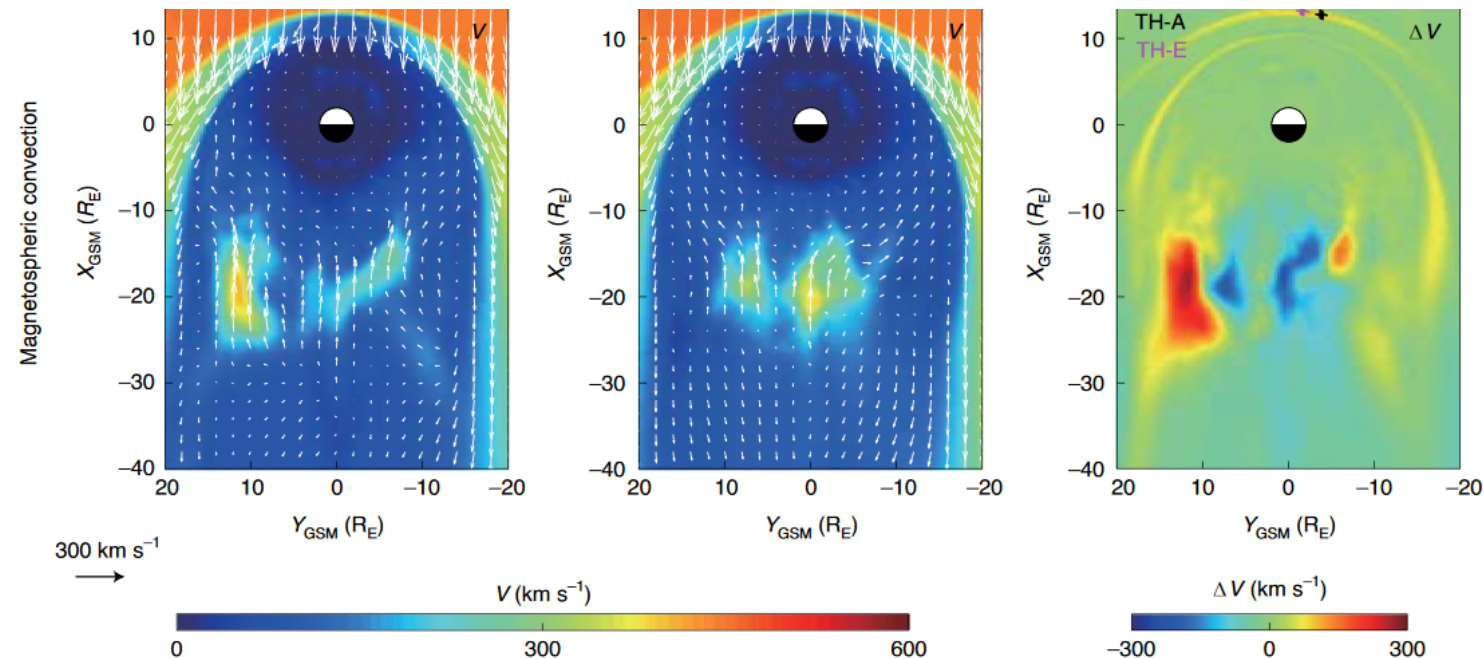






# Solar flare effects in the Earth's magnetosphere

Jing Liu<sup>1</sup>✉, Wenbin Wang<sup>2</sup>, Liying Qian<sup>2</sup>, William Lotko<sup>2,3</sup>, Alan G. Burns<sup>2</sup>, Kevin Pham<sup>2</sup>, Gang Lu<sup>2</sup>, Stanley C. Solomon<sup>2</sup>, Libo Liu<sup>4</sup>, Weixing Wan<sup>4</sup>, Brian J. Anderson<sup>5</sup>, Anthea Coster<sup>6</sup> and Frederick Wilder<sup>7</sup>

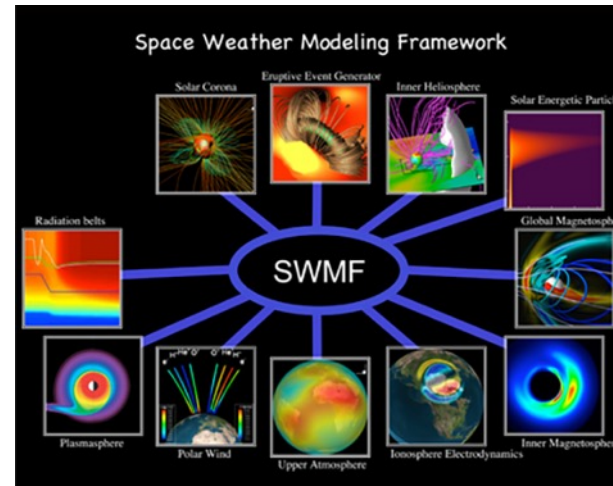
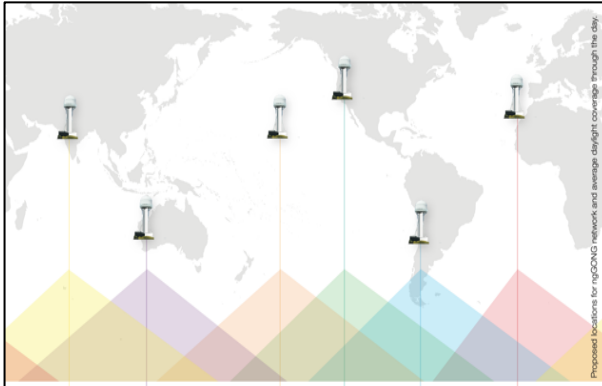




# NSF supports SWx research *and* applications

- Multi-agency (NOAA, NASA, NSF, DoD) partnership supporting R2O2R activities
- Considering future pathways for observing systems (e.g., GONG and Neutron Monitors)
- Exciting new solicitation: ***Grand Challenges in Integrative Geospace Sciences: Advancing National Space Weather Expertise and Research toward Societal Resilience*** (ANSWERS)

GONG





# Space Weather Policy and Implementation



## NATIONAL SPACE WEATHER STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Product of the  
SPACE WEATHER OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, and MITIGATION  
WORKING GROUP  
SPACE WEATHER, SECURITY, and HAZARDS SUBCOMMITTEE  
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND and NATIONAL SECURITY  
of the  
NATIONAL SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

March 2019

### Public Law No: 116-181: Promoting Research and Observations of Space Weather to Improve the Forecasting of Tomorrow (PROSWIFT) Act

directs NSF, NASA & NOAA to:

- continue to support basic research in disciplines relevant to space weather
- sponsor a National Academies “Space Weather Government-Academic-Commercial Roundtable” for communication and knowledge transfer
- establish 15-member Space Weather Advisory Group (5 each from academia, commercial sector, non-governmental end-user community)
- Directs NSF specifically to
  - “maintain and improve ground-based observations of the Sun” and
  - “continue to provide space weather data through ground-based facilities”





# Diversity has long been a top priority for NSF

Agency performance goal: *to expand efforts to increase participation from underrepresented groups and diverse institutions throughout the United States in all NSF activities and programs.*

- NSF Broadening Participation Portfolio - [www.nsf.gov/od/broadeningparticipation/bp\\_portfolio\\_dynamic.jsp](http://www.nsf.gov/od/broadeningparticipation/bp_portfolio_dynamic.jsp)
- DCL: Opportunities for Mid-Career Scientist Support in the Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences - [www.nsf.gov/pubs/2021/nsf21018/nsf21018.jsp](http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2021/nsf21018/nsf21018.jsp)
- GEO Opportunities for Leadership in Diversity (GOLD) - [www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=505271](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=505271)



We look forward to strong space weather partnerships with academic, private sector, government, and international partners

**Mangala Sharma, PhD** <MSharma@nsf.gov>  
Program Director, Space Weather  
U.S. National Science Foundation

